



Maricopa County

Board of Supervisors

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May 27, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Subject: In the Matter of LightSquared Subsidiary LLC Request for
Modification of its Authority for an Ancillary Terrestrial Component;
SAT-MOD-20101118-00239

Dear Ms. Dortch:

As Maricopa County District 5 Supervisor, I regularly see the impacts of the so-called "digital divide," which separates affluent communities that have ample access to high-speed-Internet from lower-income communities that do not have such access. Because high-speed Internet has become essential to full participation in economic, social, political and cultural life, it is crucial that we bridge this divide by encouraging wireless providers to reach underserved markets.

Leap Cricket is one example of a few niche players that are focusing on lower-income markets, creating more competition and bringing better service to consumers. Cricket's recent agreement with LightSquared, a Virginia-based provider that plans to roll out a national broadband service in the coming four years, could significantly reduce the digital divide by pairing a niche provider with a state-of-the-art next-generation wireless broadband network.

Unfortunately, LightSquared's rollout has been delayed by potential interference issues, but I understand these issues are resolvable and the Federal Communications Commission is working to fix them. Please support the FCC's efforts so that all of our citizens can benefit from this essential technology.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mary Rose Wilcox".

Mary Rose Wilcox
Supervisor, District 5

CC: Senator John McCain
Congressman Ed Pastor